



FALL 2001

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# Louisiana COASTLINES

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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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## Louisiana Fish Catch Ranks High in U.S.

Cameron, La. may be second but that ain't bad considering the statistics! Latest figures from NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service show that Cameron's port ranked second for the quantity of commercial fisheries landed in 2000. Additionally, the Dulac-Chauvin port was the top Louisiana port by value of its catch.

Commercial fishermen brought 699.8 million pounds of fish to the port of Dutch Harbor-Unalaska, Alaska, in 2000, making it the port with the highest volume of fish landings in the country. New Bedford, Mass., claimed the title of greatest value port in the country at \$146.3 million.

The port of Dutch Harbor-Unalaska netted the top landings slot for the 12th straight year, according to officials at NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service. The port recorded an increase of 20.5 million pounds over 1999 landings. Cameron was ranked as the number two port for the quantity of landings in 2000 with 414.5 million pounds landed.

There were a total of three Louisiana ports that ranked in the nation's top ten fishing ports by quantity and two Louisiana ports that ranked in the nation's top ten by value. Louisiana had a total of eight ports with a ranking in the nation's top fifty by quantity and also eight ports that ranked in the nation's top fifty by value.

Here is a look at NOAA's findings and how it ranked Louisiana ports in volume and value of fish and shellfish landed in 1999 and 2000:

### COMMERCIAL FISHERY LANDINGS AT MAJOR LA. PORTS 1999-2000

Port	Quantity (Million pounds)	
	1999	2000
Cameron	406.0	414.5
Empire-Venice	435.0	396.2
Intracoastal City	369.0	321.7
Dulac-Chauvin	42.0	48.2
Golden Meadow-Leeville	19.0	26.9
Morgan City-Berwick	137.0	20.2
Grand Isle	14.0	18.2
Delacroix-Yscloskey	16.0	15.5

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**COMMERCIAL FISHERY VALUE AT MAJOR LA PORTS****1999-2000**

Port	Value (Million dollars)	
	1999	2000
Dulac-Chauvin	49.0	68.1
Empire-Venice	64.0	61.6
Cameron	36.0	47.6
Golden Meadow-Leeville	29.0	44.9
Delcambre	25.0	30.8
Grand Isle	12.0	26.4
Intracoastal City	21.0	24.5
Delacroix-Yscloskey	17.0	20.1



## Fishermen's Gear Program Explained

The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is responsible for the operations of the state's Fisherman Gear Compensation Program and Fund (FGCF). The fund was established by the legislature to reimburse commercial fishermen for lost or damaged vessels and gear due to underwater obstructions. Fishermen operating in state-owned water bottoms located in the Louisiana Coastal Zone that incur losses may place their claim with DNR.

Two informational brochures have recently been produced to aid fishermen in understanding how the program works and how to file a claim. The brochures offer answers to frequently asked questions about the FGCF program and the payment process. To start the process, an incident report must be made to DNR by calling 225-

342-0122 at the Baton Rouge office. The next steps involve providing specific documents and information leading to a complete investigation of the claim by DNR personnel.

The companion brochures are available to the public by writing to Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Fishermen's Gear Compensation Fund, P.O. Box 44487, Baton Rouge, LA 70804 or calling DNR's Coastal Management Division at 225-342-7268. The Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service agents may also be contacted or call 504-349-5644.

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# Underwater Obstructions Notice and Coordinates for the Period June 1 Through August 31, 2001

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 56:700.1 et. seq., notice is given that 31 claims in the amount of \$94,216.60 were received for payment during the period June 1, 2001 - August 31, 2001. There were 28 claims paid and 3 claims denied.

Loran Coordinates of reported underwater obstructions are:

2947	8949	PLAQUEMINES
2951	9319	CAMERON
26699	46978	CAMERON
27359	46937	VERMILION
27887	46854	TERREBONNE
27890	46864	TERREBONNE
28547	46856	JEFFERSON
28621	46870	JEFFERSON

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates of reported underwater obstructions are:

29 11.040	89 29.010	PLAQUEMINES
29 12.515	89 28.491	PLAQUEMINES
29 16.241	89 57.376	JEFFERSON
29 20.358	90 37.694	TERREBONNE
29 24.949	90 58.073	TERREBONNE
29 35.058	89 29.318	PLAQUEMINES
29 38.553	90 10.048	JEFFERSON
29 39.158	89 50.176	PLAQUEMINES
29 41.074	89 27.016	ST BERNARD
30 09.015	89 24.643	VERMILION

A list of claimants and amounts paid can be obtained from Verlie Wims, Administrator, Fishermen's Gear Compensation Fund, P.O. Box 94396, Baton Rouge, LA 70804 or call (225) 342-0122.

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## Texas Team Wins Atchafalaya Adventure Race

Announcing it was a huge success, Sandra Thompson Decoteau, Executive Director of the Atchafalaya Basin Program, was at the finish line to congratulate 1<sup>st</sup> place winners Team Megahurtz of Houston on their victory in the Second Annual Atchafalaya Basin Adventure Race. Megahurtz members were Dave Boyd, Joe Costantino, Carlos Ibarra and Tracy Fee.

Thirty-one teams, consisting of 150 racers, participated in the swamp race which was held on September 15 and 16. The race started at Lake Fausse Pointe, New Iberia and ended at Lake End Park, Morgan City. Only four of the 31 teams completed the 155-mile course through mud and muck. Participants had to complete 25 miles of trail running, 40 miles of canoeing and 90 miles of off-road cycling.

Exhaustion took the best of some team members leaving existing teams to join together to cross the finish line.

Finishing second was Team DV8 from New Orleans (Rosanne Simmons, Rusty Bernard, Shannon Allison and Chuck Farrel) with a time of 26 hours 48 minutes. Third place went to Team Bud from Baton Rouge (Patrick Mockler, Shelley Mockler, Kimberly Snedden and Tommy Lambert) with a time of 28 hours 1 minute. Team Megahurtz finished in 24 hours 18 minutes.

The City of Morgan City and the Cajun Coast Visitors & Convention Bureau hosted the post race festivities. Morgan City Mayor Tim Tregle was also on hand to offer his support and to award trophies to the team members. Lake End Park was filled with people who came out to see the racers and enjoy live music, activities and Louisiana cuisine.

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**Team Megahurtz celebrates its victory with sponsors Sandra Decoteau and Mayor Tim Tregle.**



## Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana Holds Workshops for Fall 2001

The Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana (CRCL) will hold two workshops this fall designed to educate participants on the restoration efforts along Louisiana's coast. The workshops will be held at Grand Isle on October 6 and at Grand Chenier on October 27. Participants can attend either workshop at a fee of \$50. The day-long event will feature a boat tour, land tour, speaker presentations, group discussions, lunch and afternoon refreshments. DNR speakers will include Honora Buras, Greg Grandy and Ralph Libersat. Space is limited, so register early.

### **CRCL workshops schedule:**

Saturday, October 6, 2001  
8:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m.  
Grand Isle Community Center  
La. Hwy. 1  
Grand Isle, LA

Saturday, October 27, 2001  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Grand Chenier Fire Station  
4011 Grand Chenier Hwy.  
Grand Chenier, LA

**For more information or to register, call toll free: 1-888-LA-COAST (1-888-522-6278) or visit [www.crcl.org](http://www.crcl.org).**

## **Coastal Management Meeting Set For October 24**

The Third Annual Local Coastal Program Symposium  
Local Coastal Programs 2001: "Protecting, Restoring and Enhancing Coastal Resources"  
sponsored by

La. Department of Natural Resources/Coastal Management Division  
Interagency Affairs  
October 24-25, 2001  
Best Western Hotel Acadiana  
1801 West Pinhook  
Lafayette, LA 70508

### **Registration for the symposium is required.**

(For room reservations, call 337/233-8120 or 800/826-8386)

Join us for an update on Louisiana's coastal economic drivers, technical and regulatory issues and coastal legal issues.

For more information and to register, contact:

**Jon A. Truxillo at 225-342-3394/ 1-800-267-4019  
or [jont@dnr.state.la.us](mailto:jont@dnr.state.la.us)**



## God Bless America

The employees of the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources share in the grief and sadness of a nation since the tragedy of September 11, 2001. We want to express our belief in our country's strength through its people, its leadership and its heroism. God Bless America and help rid the world of evil and terrorism to create a world of enduring peace.

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## State Water Management Group Begins Work



**"Tony" Duplechin** has worked for DNR over 20 years and is now serving as chief of staff for the Louisiana Ground Water Management Commission established by Act 446.

The 2001 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature recognized that Louisiana's ground water resources must be managed, protected, and regulated in the best interests of all citizens of the state. Act 446 created the Louisiana Ground Water Management Commission within the Governor's Office. The Office of Conservation has been chosen to serve as staff for the newly created Commission.

Anthony J. Duplechin, Jr., a geologist in the Office of Conservation, has been chosen to head up the staff. The commission will work on developing a comprehensive statewide water management plan for presentation to the Legislature in January 2003. The Commission is responsible for the determination of critical ground water areas, providing use guidelines for ground water areas where new wells would result in creation of a critical area, developing a contingency plan to respond to emergency situations resulting in loss of water source, adopting regulations for implementation and ensuring that technical data and written recommendations of the Louisiana Geological Survey are considered.

Members of the Louisiana Ground Water Commission are Karen Gautreaux, special assistant to the Governor for environmental affairs and chairwoman of the Commission, Richard Durrett, Philip Asprodities, Len Bahr, Zahir "Bo" Bolourchi, George Cardwell, William Cefalu, Mayor Peggy Gantt, Dale Givens, Jimmy Guidry, Don Hutchinson, Fulbert Leon Namwanba, Bob Odom, John Roussel, and Linda Zaunbrecher.

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P. O. Box 44487 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4487

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COASTLINES**



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